

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-49, 51-57, 67, 68, 71-76 and 79-112 are presently pending in this application, Claims 50, 58-66, 69, 70, 77 and 78 having been canceled, Claims 1, 3-7, 10-13, 15-17, 21, 23-26, 28-30, 34, 36-38, 40, 46, 48, 49, 51-54, 56, 57, 67, 68, 71-76, 79-83 and 85-91 having been amended and Claims 93-112 having been newly added by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the application was objected to under CFR 1.172(a) as lacking the written consent of all assignees; Claims 77 and 78 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite; Claims 1-20, 23-26, 28-33, 36-42, 48, 52-55, 58, 66, 68, 87, 88 and 92 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nakatani et al. (U.S. Patent 5,484,647); Claims 1-20, 23-26, 28-33, 36-42, 48, 52-55, 58, 66, 68, 72, 81-83, 87, 88 and 92 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hatakeyama et al. (U.S. Patent 5,972,482); Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11-13, 16, 17, 19-21, 24, 25, 29, 30-33, 37-42, 46-67, 87, 88 and 92 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yasue et al. (U.S. Patent 6,010,768); Claims 1-92 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasue et al. or Nakatani et al. or Hatakeyama et al.; and Claims 1-92 were rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-55 of U.S. Patent 6,376,052.

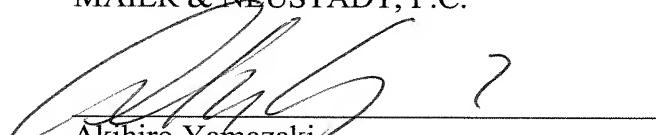
First, Applicants acknowledges with appreciation the telephone interviews with Examiner Lam held on August 24 and 29, 2007. Pursuant to the discussions during those telephone interviews, Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 17, 24, 25, 30, 38, 40, 48, 52, 54, 67, 68, 72, 76, 81-83, 88, 91, 110 and 112 have been further amended for antecedent base type formality. Also, regarding the subject matter recited in Claim 6 (“the filler is a nonconducting

composition.”), Applicants wish to point out that Applicants specification provides description on the filler at, for example, column 7, line 25, to column 10, line 3, and describes the nonconducting filler at, for example, column 9, lines 58, to column 10, line 3.

In light of the discussions held during the telephone interview and in view of the amendments presented above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work in a joint effort to resolve any remaining issues and expedite the prosecution of this application. Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable action to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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